

Maynard Berger
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16 Nov. 1964

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Cog d'Or Farm
Hyattstown, Md. 20734

Dear Harold;

I have your letter of 12 November. I suppose this would be a good time for you to send me your mss since at present I am not employed and seem to have some time. I can give you an opinion on the children's book, and if I find it promising, can do whatever re-writing and editing is required.

I have no facilities for motion pictures. You might send appropriate stills. I am myself working on a "children's Book" (in quotes because I doubt the line between "children's books" and "adult books").

You mention an agent. He is your literary agent? I should know who he is.

As to finances, what to say? Since you are strapped and I seem to have little to do of a remunerative nature, I will leave it to you. If you can send a few bucks, fine. If you can't, you can't. Obviously you shouldn't go into hock or without food, etc. If the book sells, the usual practice is for me to take a percentage, deducting from that figure whatever you've already paid me. I have a contact at Dutton, and at Holt-Rinehart-Winston, but if you're tied up with an agent, then the placement of the book is his province. If you're not, I can handle that from here.

There is a constant demand for "children's books".

If yours has any potential, we should be able to sell it. My cut would depend, I think, on how much work I have to do to get the book ready for submission.

I hope the foregoing is satisfactory to you. If so, send me the material.

Muriel Ruckeyser is not in Manhattan, Brooklyn or Queens- or not listed. I seem to remember some of her poems have been published so you could reach her via her publisher.

Sincerely,

Maynard

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